

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 NRC-05 ERDA-05
AF-10 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /133 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6642
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM,ICCD
SUBJECT: CCD: WESTERN GROUP MEETING, APRIL 18, 1977

1. SUMMARY: WESTERN GROUP MET MORNING, APRIL 18, TO DISCUSS UPCOMING INFORMAL MEETINGS OF CCD ON COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB). BRIEF DISCUSSION OF CONCLUSION OF US/USSR BILATERALS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW) ENSUED WHICH LED TO A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE NEED FOR VISABLE PROGRESS IN CCD ON AT LEAST ONE MAJOR DISARMAMENT TOPIC. MOST REPS EXPRESSED OPINION THAT CW ISSUE WAS NEAREST TO BEING RIPE, AND SOME THOUGHT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS ON PRINCIPLES OR ACTUAL CW TREATY TEXT DURING SUMMER SESSION OF CCD. END SUMMARY.

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2. THE WESTERN GROUP MET MORNING, APRIL 18, TO CONSIDER TACTICS FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS OF CCD ON COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN (CTB) WHICH BEGIN AFTERNOON, APRIL 19; JAPANESE REP (OGISO) WAS IN CHAIR. ALL AGREED THAT INFORMALS WOULD NOT CONSUME MUCH OF WEEK AND WOULD LIKELY CONCLUDE BY THURSDAY, APRIL 21. US REP (MEYERS) SAID THAT HE WOULD MAKE BRIEF STATEMENT DURING INFORMALS AND THAT TEXT WOULD BE MADE

AVAILABLE TO USSR REP AND WESTERN GROUP PRIOR TO DELIVER, FRG REP (SCHLAICH), NETHERLANDS ALTERNATE REP (MEERBURG) AND UK REP (ASHE) IALL PLAN BRIEF REMARKS ON CTB FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS; CANADIAN REP (JAY) AND JAPANESE REP PLAN STATEMENTS- FOR-THE-RECORD ON CTB IN PLENARY DURING WEEK OF INFORMALS. POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO ISSUES OF PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS (PNE'S) AND VERIFICATION WERE DISCUSSED BRIEFLY BY NETHERLANDS ALTERNATE REP PARTICULARLY NEED TO REFUTE INDIAN POSITION (SEE REF A) AND NEED TO ADDRESS IRANIAN STATEMENT (REF B) ON PNE'S.

3. FRG REP ASKED FOR SUMMATION OF US/USSR BILATERALS ON CW. US REP SAID HE FELT GENERAL ATMOSPHERE HAD BEEN VERY FRIENDLY AND POSSIBILITY FOR REACHING AGREEMENT ON SCOPE WAS NEARER AT HAND AS RESULT OF TALKS, BUT THAT VERIFICATION ISSUE WAS STILL MAJOR UNCERTAINTY.

4. NETHERLANDS ALTERNATE REP DIRECTED CW DISCUSSION TO PRINCIPLES VS. TEXT NEGOTIATION ISSUE; SAID EASTERN EUROPEANS, FOLLOWING SOVIET LEAD, ARE TROUBLED BY PROSPECT OF SPENDING SUMMER SESSION IN DEVELOPING AGREED SET OF PRINCIPLES AND HAVE EXPRESSED DESIRE TO START NEGOTIATING "MORE CONCRETE LANGAUGE". ITALIAN REP (DI BERNARDO) SAID WORKING OUT PRINCIPLES WOULD BE REPETITIOUS SINCE "IT HAS ALL BEEN DISCUSSED BEFORE" AND THAT LIKHATCHEV (SOVIET REP) HAD SAID IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP, ALONG LINES OF ITALIAN PROPOSAL, TO BEGIN TREATY DRAFTING. ITALIAN REP SAID THAT IN PROPOSING WORKING GROUP HIS DELEGATION HAD INTENDED THAT UK DRAFT TEXT WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USED AS FOUNDATION. US REP NOTED THAT SOVIET REP HAD EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR SOVIET DRAFT. AFTER LISTENING TO ALL DISCUSSIONS ON PRINCIPLES VS. TREATY TEXT NEGOTIATIONS, FRG REP MUTTERED "THE MORE YOU GO TOWARD DRAFT LANGUAGE, THE MORE LOCKED IN YOU GET." NETHERLANDS ALTERNATE REP REMINDED GROUP OF WHAT HE FELT TO BE THE NECESSITY OF BEING ABLE TO SHOW UNGA CONCRETE RESULTS FROM CCD IN CW AREA, WITHOUT PRESENTING THEM WITH A COMPLETE DRAFT; MEMBER UK DEL (KENYON) SUGGESTED DRAFTING TREATY TEXT ON SCOPE AND SUBMITTING TO UNGA WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT VERIFICATION ISSUES REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT AND INCLUDED IN TREATY TEXT. US ALTERNATE REP (TURRENTINE) SAID THAT US SAW SCOPE AND VERIFICATION ISSUES CLOSELY LINKED IN CW BAN AND THAT SEPARATING VERIFICATION FROM TREATY TEXT NEGOTIATION TO GIVE ILLUSION OF GENERAL AGREEMENT IN CCD ON CW ISSUE WAS DANGEROUS.

5. US REP INFORMED GROUP THAT HE WOULD MAKE BRIEF PLENARY STATEMENT ON US DECISION TO SIGN PROTOCOL I OF TREATY

OF TLATELOLCO. ITALIAN REP SAID USSR REP INTENDS TO PROPOSE MORE MDW INFORMALS FOR SUMMER SESSION; US REP SAID USSR REP HAD PROPOSED THAT MDW INFORMALS START ON AUGUST 8. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT GROUP SHOULD AVOID SETTING DATE FOR MDW TALKS UNTIL AFTER SUMMER SESSION CONVENED.

6. CANADIAN REP SAID HE THOUGHT USG RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE (RW) STATEMENT AT 1976 UNGA WAS "PASSING PHASE" AND THAT HE WAS CONFUSED BY ISSUE'S RE-EMERGENCE IN MOSCOW TALKS); HE ASKED WHAT USG INTENTIONS WERE ON RW ISSUE. US ALTERNATE REP REPLIED THAT USG DOES NOT ATTACH HIGH PRIORITY TO RW AT THIS TIME BUT WISHES TO KEEP IT UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION AT SOME APPROPRIATE TIME IN THE FUTURE. HE NOTED THAT US SIDE HAD NOT TAKEN THE LEAD IN PROPOSING ESTABLISHMENT OF RW WORKING GROUP DURING MOSCOW TALKS.

7. NEXT MEETING OF WESTERN GROUP WILL BE MORNING, APRIL 27.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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